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SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 27 Oct. '53

SUBJECT 1. Air-Ground Attack Exercises and Communications  
2. Czechoslovak Radio Equipment

NO. OF PAGES 5

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

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DATE ACQUIRED BY SOURCE

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

DATE OF INFORMATION

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

Air-ground attack exercises and Czechoslovak radio equipment.

1. First camp, 3rd Tank Division exercise area. A wooded area, four to five kilometers east to west and three kilometers north to south. (For further information regarding this area, reference is made to RC-1554). 25X1
2. Second camp, 3rd Tank Division exercise area. A wooded area, four to five kilometers east to west and three kilometers north to south. (For further information regarding this area, reference is made to RC-1555). 25X1
3. Third camp, 3rd Tank Division. All the units within the third camp remained in this area during the alerts.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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4. Highway. Asphalt surfaced, six meters wide.
5. Highway. Asphalt surfaced, six meters wide, Nymburk-Mlada Boleslav.

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1. Headquarters, 3rd Tank Division notified the Officer of the Day of the entire camp area that an alert was in progress and gave each instructions to open one of three envelopes (previously set aside) which contained the necessary evasive action to be used during that particular maneuver. Each of these envelopes had a password typed on it equivalent to the English words iron, wood, etc. The Regimental and Battalion duty officers and the Company Commanders each had three envelopes, one of which they opened upon receipt of the password. the envelopes contained orders 25X1 which usually were carried out in three phases. This was true of those affecting the First and Second Camp units although he could not give information about those of other units. The first order in the envelope directed the units of the First and Second Camp Areas to assemble with equipment and load the trucks in preparation for the move from their present position to that of the assembly area. During practice alerts, this area was always the First and Second Camp Exercise areas. The second order directed the units to move out to the attacked area and prepare for the defense of that area. The units fulfilling this order were moved by convoy to the practice exercise areas, Pt. #1 and #2, Encl. #1, this report, and prepared for the attack. The third order directed the units to prepare for, and defend the area against, airborne personnel and bombing attacks. Source stated that the units actually never moved further than the exercise areas indicated above even though the area to be defended may have been in another location.

Following the fulfillment of order #1 and receipt of order #2, the units moved out in convoys in which the vehicles were spaced about 50 meters apart. There was a separation of 500 meters between each unit convoy and all convoys maintained a speed of 20 km/hr. During night maneuvers, the vehicles headlights were fitted with slotted (10 x 2 cm. slots) rubber hoods. Mobile, heavy AA machine guns (identified as the 12.7 mm. DShK M 1938, Reference AIG, Tab. 7, Sec. II, page 270) were spaced at the front, center front, center rear and rear of the battalion convoy. Each battalion was allocated four such mobile AA units. In the event of an aerial attack, the convoy was halted and the personnel sought protection along the roadside while the AA units simulated fire upon the attacking aircraft. If there was ample time, the convoy usually pulled off the road into the wooded areas and used the camouflage offered by nature. Once in the wooded area, the vehicles were parked 15-25 meters apart and all

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lead-in tracks were covered or swept clean.

A. (a) The following visual ground to air systems were employed:

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1. WIND "T". Cloth panel laid on the ground to indicate wind direction for friendly aircraft.
2. ENEMY POSITION OR NIGHT TARGET MARKER. This usually consisted of piles of brush, wood or other inflammable material piled around enemy positions or targets and ignited to guide friendly aircraft to help them locate the target at night.
3. ENEMY POSITION OR DAY TARGET MARKER. This usually consisted of cloth panels (colored) placed around enemy position or target to aid friendly aircraft in locating same.
4. OBSTRUCTION MARKERS. Colored cloth panels placed over rocks, holes etc. to aid friendly aircraft in landing on unfamiliar or temporary landing strips.
5. EQUIPMENT USED FOR MESSAGE PICK-UP BY FRIENDLY AIRCRAFT. This equipment consisted of two five to eight meter high poles placed 30-35 meters apart. A thin steel cable with small metal weights on either end was stretched across the two poles and message was attached to center of wire. The wire was snared from poles by low flying aircraft equipped with a pick-up hook.
6. AIRCRAFT PICK-UP HOOK AND CABLE. A retractable steel cable.

(b) Radio and other methods of ground to air systems employed:

there was an aviation signal station (Letecka Signalni Stanice) in the First Camp Area of the 3rd Tank Division which was used for air to ground and ground to air communications with aircraft. This unit used radio equipment operating on decimeter wave lengths. Types of equipment unknown.

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Rockets were also used

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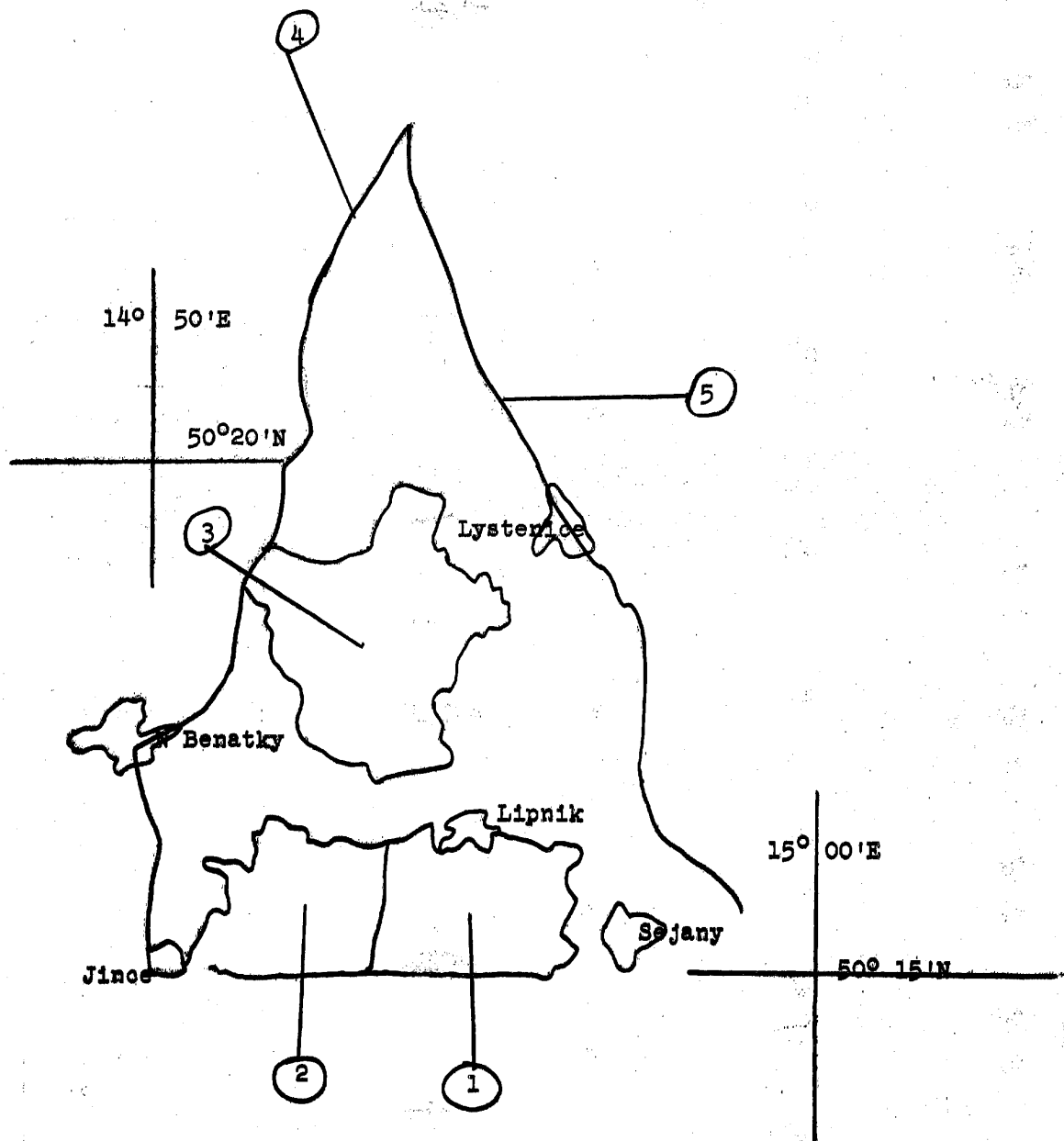
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Enclosure #1, 1:100,000, Pinpoint  
Locations of the Exercise Areas of the 3rd Tank Division.

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